

COMMUNITY MEMBERS MEETING MINUTES

Date: June 24, 2024

Time: 11:30 am – 1:00 pm **Location:** [Zoom](#)

Chair: Laurie Walters

Minutes: Bree Odd

Present: Laurie Walters, Shannon Thom, Eva Navrot, Lindsay Sidor, Michael Moses, Derek Godin, Jean Oke, Hannah Diether, Natika Bock (Guest Speaker), Brianna van de Wijngaard

Land Acknowledgement

The Social Planning Council of Williams Lake and Area would like to acknowledge this meeting is taking place on the traditional unceded territory of the Secwepemc Nation and the T'exelcenc people.

Review & Approve Agenda for June 24, 2024

Motion Shannon Thom **Seconded by** Sherry Yonkman **Carried**

Review & Approve Minutes for May 27, 2024

Motion Jean Oke **Seconded by** Shannon Thom **Carried**

Member Introductions: Shared names and the organization representing.

Lightning Round

Jean Oke, Scout Island Nature House

- June 9th – Magic Marsh a big success with approx. 300 participants and invasive species program counted 155.
- Can SPC encourage city officials/transit to put in a bus stop at Scout Island to bring in people who can't afford to drive.
- Room for volunteers, contact Sue Hemphill at Nature Centre.
- Family programs are free this summer, due to grant from Art Brown.
 - o Summer programs and nature fun on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday Programs posted on Facebook and posters shared.
 - o Art in nature on Wednesdays and different weekly themes.
 - o FYI government grants available for families who can't afford community programs.
- Completing grant application for new bridge.

Michael Moses, City Councillor

- BC NDP candidate for the Cariboo Chilcotin, Leadership Table for Ending Poverty.

- National Indigenous Peoples Day was a great success over 1000 people attending.
- TNG 10th land Title Anniversary Xeni Gwet'in.
- A bus stop at Scout Island is a huge endeavour.
 - o He will contact Joan Flaspohler to start on this, contact for field naturalists this year, to request this from the city.
- Another orange crosswalk being put in by the Friendship Centre, in teamwork with Orange Shirt Society, watch for updates on.
- The City is working on saving the local powerplant - first time premier has attended one of council meetings, thanks to Michael!
 - o The Powerplant provides 150 jobs, tax base for City (water/sewage), losing it would increase taxes by 30%
 - o Laurie - the Chamber of Commerce went to Kelowna as a delegation, rallied for attention and approval. Collaboration with the local government is neat to see.

Sherry Yonkman, Downtown Williams Lake

- Grand opening of the Work on Art Walk is on August 9th, 30 Businesses and 30 Artists.
- A challenge for the Clean Team, Grant Search is being turned down twice but applying for another in September.
 - o Researching grants the City or First Nations groups would qualify for that we could contract the work for.
- Newsletter is going out early, Wednesday this week, to capture the Stampede information. Contact info@downtownwilliamslake.com or call 250-398-5717.

Hannah Diether, Local Division of Family Practice

- Encourage everyone to sign up on Health Connect registry or 811 if they don't have a family doctor. E-mail hdiether@cirdivision.ca for posters or brochures.
 - o Continue work on the Williams Lake Primary Care Hub, though there is not a doctor or nurse practitioner yet, so limited services, very important to get the word out that connecting with the hub is the main way to connect with a doctor.
- Laurie, thank you for all the behind the scenes work you and divisions does.

Derek Godin, Boys and Girls Club

- Some programming coming up during the summer holidays for the kids.
 - o Blue Jays program.
 - o Day camps Little Youngins – at Skyline 4-11 years old.
- Doing some overdose awareness.

Brianna van de Wijngaard, Food Hud

- The Food Hub is funded by United Way BC
- Had a yearly planning session with organizations - Salvation Army, Saint Vincent DePaul, Senior Centre, others - who have emergency food programs.
 - o Completed a needs assessment with them to determine how to allocate some of the funding and work to coordinate different food initiatives this year.
 - o Discussions on gaps and challenges around food security and individuals impacted by food insecurity.
 - o Seniors are becoming a target group due to increase food costs so donated some grocery cards to the Seniors Centre.
 - o Chat from Jean - St Peter's Anglican Church has a Free Store/Free lunch program and a Spaghetti Dinner free or by donation. JoAnn Hinter is the priest.
- Research project results will come out closer to the fall.

Lindsay Sidor, CIBC

- Property tax time, making sure it's going smoothly.
- New program to support students interested in getting into the trades.
- Great to watch the parade

Shannon Thom, WorkBC Williams Lake

- Challenge: opening for a job developer for about a month, applications trickled in, no right fits – have two interviews this afternoon.
 - o The job development position works closely with employers to do a lot of employer services that WorkBC employment services offers like wage subsidy but also work with employers and job seekers to manage and mitigate any issues that might result in the loss of employment for that employee.
 - o There are some eligibility criteria.
- We participated in the National Indigenous Peoples Day celebrations, it was wonderful.

Laurie Walters, Social Planning Council

- Liane will be leaving us, and we have Bree coming back to join us.
- Next Community Meeting is July 22, there is no meeting in August.

Guest Speaker(s): Natika Bock - Regional CII Coordinator, Community Impact & Investment, United Way British Columbia | Thompson Nicola Cariboo

- Calling in from the unceded ancestral territory at of the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc.
- Attended the National Indigenous Peoples Day at Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc.

- Learned a lot from the last three speakers.
- United Way BC has about 250 employees reach out if interested in having another staff member speak connect with her.
 - o BC211 being part of their catchment area.
 - o There are three people on the indigenous priorities team who are willing to speak. Connect with Veronica Murray if interested.
 - o There is a corporate relations team – Lindsay Sidor, if interested in connecting her with Chelsea Ingram call her. Shared in chat - lindsay.sidor@cibc.com
 - Chelsea also helps workplaces or for-profit organizations if they're looking to volunteer at nonprofits.
 - o There is a healthy aging team and a government relations labour partnership.
- Natika's role is to work with Food Hubs and emergent response and to connect different agencies with other resources.
- She and Patrick Harry, with the Good Medicine Society, will be in Williams Lake on July 4th and 5th to meet with Brianna of the Food Hub, and the ESS team.
 - o Preparing for emergent challenges and reaching out to Emergency Support Services (ESS) and SPC if emergencies come up.
- Grant information will be shared soon.
- Natika chairs the Community Action Team
 - o Community Action teams are part of the Ministry of Mental Health and Addiction.
 - o There are about 40 of them in BC and works with Marnie Sellers from CMHA Cariboo Chilcotin.
- Derek – pop into the BGC next time you are here.
- Connect with Natika at natikab@uwbc.ca

Questions

Meeting Adjourned: 12:25 pm

Motion: